

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON BENELUX UNIT 21419 APO AE 09708

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

IMEU-CHV-MWA 22 June 2005

## MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: USAG Benelux Command Policy Letter 17\*, Family Violence

- 1. This command is committed to achievement of a safe and secure environment for our soldiers and families. Family violence in the form of spouse and child abuse detracts from the goal specifically and from readiness in general. We share specific responsibilities in dealing with family violence, which this letter is intended to reiterate.
- 2. The foundation of the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is to improve readiness and retention. The four pillars to accomplish this objective are prevention, education, wellness, and treatment through programs designed to help stop family violence. For soldiers involved in family violence, it is essential that treatment be immediate, uninterrupted, and completed. Until a soldier's mandated treatment is completed, his/her place of duty will be at scheduled appointments. The privacy rights of the victim and alleged offender will be maintained.
- 3. A very important factor is understanding the programs designed for prevention and treatment which are outlined in Army Regulation 608-18, dated 27 September 2004. This regulation highlights the requirement of a mandatory briefing for commanders, command sergeants major, and first sergeants concerning FAP, and annual training for all units. Contact your local FAP Manager to schedule these briefings: SHAPE/Chievres, DSN 423-5263/4352, or civilian, 065-44.52.63; NSA/Brussels, DSN 368-9693, or civilian, 0032 02 717-9693; Schinnen, DSN 360-7453, or civilian, 0031-0-46-443-7453
- 4. Equally important is the requirement for command representation at the Case Review Committee (CRC) meetings in order to provide information from a unit's perspective, and to be aware of the treatment recommendations.

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5. Leaders, it must start with you. I totally support the FAP, and I expect you to totally support it, too. We are all responsible for taking an active role in preventing and stopping family violence, and getting soldiers and families the help they need. You know what to do to make this happen.

COL, AR Commanding

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